

BRITISH LIBRARY
16 FEB 1988
OF POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCES

Student Injured at Rosebery Disco

Has Hall Security slackened after two years?

By ANDREW CORNWELL

Violence at Rosebery Hall a week ago on Saturday has given rise to new fears for hall security. It is two years since a spate of stabings and gang fights led to a security clamp down at Carr-Saunders hall. Now after two students went to hospital following a Rosebery disco it is clear that precautions to prevent trouble may have to be reviewed again.

Psychology student Raza Shah had three teeth dislocated after being punched and beaten in the men's lavatories at Rosebery. He

went to hospital with blood pouring from his gums. The culprits are believed to be two LSE students, as yet untraced, and a third friend who left college in 1986.

As the three left the hall they were challenged by Carr-Saunders bar manager Graham Jones. For his pains, Jones suffered a cut earlobe and he paid a hospital visit the next morning.

The ex-LSE student individual was named by Jones as John Kearns, a former Carr-Saunders resident. How Kearns got into the building is not known, but he must have handed in an outdated LSE identity card, since all disco

visitors are required to give some ID at reception.

Kurt Klappholz, Rosebery warden, is determined to find all those involved in the fight and has offered confidentiality to anyone prepared to give information. He said the incident was "deplorable" and promised to bar from the LSE anyone proved to be involved. However, he added that he was not sure what could have been done to avoid the incident. The only potential improvement Klappholz suggested was greater control of ID cards surrendered at the door.

Meanwhile, Carr-Saunders Hall

appears to have relaxed security. At one time uniformed guards were employed nightly, with extra personnel available at social events. Things now appear to have reverted to the previous situation: students are paid £12 each to control entry on disco nights. As uniformed security guards cost not a great deal more, this appears to be a false economy. Graham Jones suggested that professional bouncers could be employed for around £20 each for four or five hours for such an event. However, it is to be hoped that the Rosebery trouble was an isolated incident.



Photo: Kapil Chadda



Photo: Sivan Lewin

Students Prosper as Markets Crash

by MARK MOSHER and TOM PARKER

As the dust settled on Wall Street and other world financial markets after last Monday's staggering crash, both cries of exaltation and despair could be heard amidst the carnage.

While investment analysts surveyed the damage of the past week, many LSE students were struggling to come to terms with either crushing losses or phenomenal gains on the London exchange.

In an interview with The Beaver last Wednesday, Bolaji Balogun, spokesperson for the LSE Financial Forum, talked candidly about the week's events. Mirroring the comments of many financial observers, Balogun said while worries about the US trade deficit, rising interest rates in the US and West Germany, the current escalation of the Gulf crisis and automatic dumping of stock by Wall Street computers all played a role in the dramatic downturn in the market, the principle reason for the plunge was the dawning realisation that share prices had reached unrealistic levels.

While many student investors playing the stock exchange skilfully anticipated the market crash, still more were caught unaware. The national press latched on to the story of Timothy Sterwald, a first year student at Queen Mary's College (London), who sunk his inheritance and his grant into shares and unit trusts and on Wednesday stood to lose £17,000.

The Beaver has learnt of several similar victims at the LSE though we have agreed to protect their anonymity. One member of the Financial Forum had invested heavily in high risk unit trusts and now stands to lose at least £4500 on an original £10,000 investment. Rakesh Patel, a first year economics student suffered a £4000 decline in value on Rolls-Royce and British Telecom shares.

According to Bolaji Balogun it is a fairly common practise for students to invest their grants and bank loans in the stock market in the hope of quick profits before fees are due. Now that share prices have plummeted such students are now faced with a serious dilemma: do they cut their losses and sell what they have left at a considerable personal loss or do they try and ride out the financial storm in the hope that prices will rise once more? This will effectively mean freezing their assets, leaving them nothing on which to live.

However, the last week is not without considerable success stories, for a plummeting market can leave rich pickings for the really skilful investor. The Beaver knows of students who, anticipating the market decline, invested in "put" and "call" options. In lay terms this means actually investing in whether the market will go down (put) or up (call). The real money lay in "call" options purchased on "Black Monday" and realised on Wednesday as the market staged a recovery of sorts.

Requesting anonymity, two students told The Beaver how initial investments in the options markets yielded for them respectively £5000 on a £1000 investment and a staggering £35,000 on a £5000 stake.

However it is true to say that most financially active students have quite modest portfolios and are not experienced enough to know how to react in a suddenly hostile market. For them Bolaji Balogun offers this advice: avoid panic selling and you should see your investments regain a realistic price if not quite the dizzy values of recent months. If there are those out there with stomach and money to invest in the post-crash market Bolaji recommends that you stay at least initially with blue chip stocks like British Telecom and British Airways.

See page 3

Fight Alton's Bill!

by Shantanu Mitra

Following the UGM's decision to establish within the LSE a "Fight Alton's Bill" group, the campaign was last week launched in earnest. Although the first meetings have been poorly attended and rather low key, it is hoped that the campaign will gain momentum after Tuesday (October 27th) when a picket will take place at Westminster's Central Hall.

Those attending Tuesday's FAB meeting were encouraged by news that at least eight other colleges have now set up their own FAB

groups. The only University where proposals to set up a campaign have been defeated is Aston. King's College students will attempt to form a FAB group early this week, in time for Tuesday's picket.

Michelle Carlisle of the National Abortion Campaign (NAC) which sponsors FAB nationally (and also a member of the NUS executive) welcomed the LSESU's decision but added that it should try to liaise with other FAB groups in the area, such as the yet-to-be formed King's group. She drew attention to the

The Cafe has turned out to be the LSE Students Union success story. It is quite simply the best food and the best value of any Central London restaurant. The fact that only vegetarian food is served has not hampered its success. See inside on Page 7 for articles on vegetarianism.

See page 3

THE BEAVER

This week, exactly twenty years after the 1967 abortion act was introduced, David Alton, Liberal MP for Mossley Hill, Liverpool will introduce his private members bill to the House of Commons. If this bill is passed it will reduce the time in which an abortion can be carried out from twenty-eight to eighteen weeks.

No one likes or wants an abortion. It is an unpleasant experience and a decision taken out of necessity and which, particularly with late abortions, is never undertaken lightly. There should be no mistake: abortion is not a form of contraception. It is not available on demand; a woman has to have the consent of two doctors before she can have an abortion. Yet Alton's bill would prevent those most in need of abortion: young girls who do not necessarily realise they are pregnant, or are too afraid to admit it, older women who think missed periods are due to menopause rather than to pregnancy, and those, 20% last year, who have gone beyond the eighteenth week because of delays in the N.H.S. or because of unsympathetic gynaecologists and G.P.s. Most importantly Alton's bill will prevent those carrying severely abnormal foetuses from having abortions.

Tests for Down's syndrome and Muscular Dystrophy cannot be carried out until the twentieth week so many abortions after twenty weeks are of abnormal foetus's. Alton's bill would force women to continue such pregnancies, increasing the number of seriously handicapped children being born. This is something of which David Alton is proud, citing his experience teaching handicapped children. He insists that bringing up a severely handicapped child can be an enriching experience for parents. Given the state of care for the handicapped, this would force many women to spend the rest of their lives at home caring for a severely handicapped child. This would be an enriching experience for many through suffering, a Catholic virtue which Alton might extol but not something to which everyone would subscribe.

David Alton is a devout Catholic and apparently sees this bill as his personal crusade. However the problem upon which the two opposing sides in this debate are never likely to agree on is whether a foetus has a divine right to life as an *unborn person*, or whether the

mother has a right to act if she believes that for psychological or physical reasons she cannot continue with the pregnancy. This is an ethical problem on which every individual must make his or her own decision. By introducing this bill David Alton is trying to impose his religious and moral beliefs, by use of the law, on people who do not subscribe to them. Abortion should be a mother's choice and a doctor's decision.

Even if it succeeds David Alton's bill will not stop late abortions. All it will do is bring about the return of back street abortions, the horrors of which have perhaps been too quickly forgotten over the last twenty years. Consequently it might also see a rise in the mortality rate amongst pregnant women, a figure which fell after the introduction of the 1967 act.

David Alton could have chosen from hundreds of issues for his private members bill, but insists he had to do what he believes in. He has rejected the more widely acceptable limit of twenty-five weeks, at which time a baby is capable of being born alive, in favour of eighteen weeks. A twenty-five week limit would only see a small decrease in the number of abortions carried out since last year only twenty-nine abortions were performed in Britain after twenty-five weeks. Such a small reduction would not achieve Alton's real aim.

If David Alton's concern is for the welfare and distress caused to mothers and those performing late abortions, and he genuinely seeks to reduce the number of late abortions, then he is introducing the wrong bill. The areas where real improvements are necessary are in providing quick abortions, teenage counselling and contraception, better sex education and research to develop earlier tests for abnormalities. But as David Alton has made clear, what he really wants is an end to legal abortions.

This is an issue which poses serious moral questions, which many people would like to avoid until either they or their daughter needs an abortion. Alton's bill threatens that choice, and demands immediate action. SPUC and LIFE have already launched enormous letter writing campaigns; if those who oppose Alton's bill are not as determined and energetic in writing to M.P.s the issue could be lost through default.



Get rid of moral watchdog

Dear Beaver

I attended the UGM (18 Oct) and have read the reviews of the AIESEC vote. It appears to me that the central issue was not addressed. The crucial question is not whether the S.U. abhors apartheid and believes it should be opposed by sanctions, for clearly a significant proportion does. Rather, the question is: can students associate freely (and legally) or must they obtain some one-sided moral approval? The logical extension of the AIESEC vote is a ban on all societies which cannot marshal a majority of the minority present (at UGM). When do we vote on all the rest? Is yours next?

The issue of the South African nexus is in fact an essential element in determining, at a personal level, one's participation in the society, not in deciding its right to exist! We all believe that the fundamentally opposed political societies have a right to exist here, and elsewhere. We align ourselves accordingly and do not ask anyone's approval.

You may not agree with AIESEC but a dangerous precedent has been re-affirmed and our rights infringed upon. Societies cannot exist at the caprice (and uncounted votes) of a self appointed moral watchdog. The rude self-indulgence of a few must yield in the interest of all and an apology made to us, the sponsors!

Yours in Disgrace
Keith Driver

Alliance fights back

Dear Editors

I am writing to correct a mixture of inaccuracies and mistaken opinions contained in James Robertson's "At The Union" column. They concern the Liberals.

Firstly, regarding the censure motion moved (and withdrawn) by Martin Flatters. He is not, and never has been, a Liberal. He is a member of the SDP. The Liberals had nothing to do with this misguided attempt to jump on Nick Randall - Nick is doing a good job. I say this from the vantage point of having been his opponent in the elections last March. On a more cynical level, it would also have been daft to go for him now, as he obviously commands much respect in the UGM.

Secondly, the liberals, for the most part, supported the continued ban on AIESEC. We believe that sending 52 British students to work in South Africa, as AIESEC did last year, cannot be construed as helping to train black managers for the new South Africa, which is what AIESEC claim they are doing. It offends against every principle of the economic boycott called for by AA groups world-wide, a call backed by the Liberal Party Assembly on numerous occasions.

Thirdly, the Liberal Party is not, and politically is not about to become, extinct.

All that the Liberal Party has decided to do, as regards a merger, is to hold negotiations with the SDP as to the nature of a new party. The Liberal Party, at an organisational and political level, still exists . . .

Malcolm Lowe
LSE Liberals

Sinister Trends at the SU

Dear Beaver

Recent events have demonstrated a sinister trend within the LSE SU; namely a willingness to silence opinions that do not concur with the wishes of the UGM.

Last year we saw the banning of the "Open Debating Society". This year AIESEC is banned on grounds so flimsy that they are laughable outside the isolated and unreal world of the Union General Meeting.

The LSE was created for people of all political beliefs. By silencing visiting speakers and expelling legitimate societies from the Students' Union we are usurping the role for which the LSE was intended. Free debate can no longer take place and the ill-considered vote of a few hundred students determines policy for all 4000 members of the LSE SU. These are not the tactics of democrats, but those of the National Socialists.

A. S. Aiken

Who profits from opposing Alton?

Dear Beaver

The current dispute at the LSE over the Alton Bill is a political dispute, inspired by a group of (well intentioned) feminists and supporters of the left who misuse the publicity intensive theme of equal rights for women, that has led to a stance of the S.U., which many students of the LSE might find difficult to accept.

The real problem of abortion becomes even more blurred by the hysterical behaviour of those opposing the bill. Instead of respecting those who reject abortion totally or partially because of moral reasons, they choose to interpret this as an attack on women's rights to determine what happens to their (own) body. No one disputes that right.

On the other hand I find it difficult to view a 7 months (28 weeks) old child as part of the woman's body, like an appendix for instance (and even in the case of an appendix a woman will find it difficult to find a doctor to remove it, if it is healthy), especially since under present day technology the unborn child would be able to enjoy a normal life. From that point of view there is no difference between a 7 month old unborn baby and a 2 month old baby: both are dependent on mother/other human beings and cannot survive alone.

So the question is not the misleading "What are women allowed to do with their own bodies?", but "What does society allow women

to do with "bodies" inside their bodies?"

There is no doubt that there are situations where an abortion is the last resort (rape, health hazard to the mother . . .). This leads us to the central point. Young people are not only responsible for themselves, but also for their actions. In times when contraception is easy to obtain, men and women should be conscious about the dangers and agree to face the responsibilities if they have intercourse. Sex is not only about fun, but also about responsibilities. In some cases it would seem better that people refrain from it until they grow up or give the child away for adoption, once born. But as it is not many people's strength to stand up to their mistakes, they prefer to "abort" the problem.

And the misuse of this theme profits least those who are most misused: the babies and the women, who would probably suffer less if they were discouraged from aborting 6 or 7 month old babies and instead persuaded to retain the child or give it away for adoption. Because the guilt of having destroyed something wonderful and alive will never go away for the person who has suffered one. I wonder how many of those men and women encouraging abortions take that into account?

Andreas Utermann

"PERDITION" ALL PARTY CONDEMNATION

Dear Editor

As usual the Socialist Workers Student Society continue their campaign to intimidate and provoke Jewish students. Their perpetration of the most vile theory of Jewish collaboration with Nazism to bring about the holocaust in Europe in World War II is an obscenity unfortunately now to be expected of the SWSS.

Students at LSE should know that it was not long ago that the SWP tried to bar Jewish Societies from Student Unions around the country, succeeding at Sunderland Polytechnic, on the pretext that Jews were some sort of evil racist Nazi collaborators, and reducing many Jewish students to tears. Those who experienced these humiliations will not forget it.

"Perdition" is in line with SWP theory, interpreting Zionist attempts to save Jewish lives from death in the gas chambers as Zionist complicity in the murder of Jews. In the words of the Trotskyite paper Socialist Organiser, "it is obscene to attribute a part of the responsibility for the holocaust by saying you collaborated (29/05/86). It is blatantly anti-semitic".

This is why there was an outcry at the first UGM when SWSS started up their antics. Students at LSE should be aware of the sinister nature of SWSS, on this issue. We feel the SWP would do well to rethink their policy.

Yours sincerely,
Paul Lewis, Joanna Glass (Jewish Society)

The Labour Club Executive

Ian Crawford (Liberal Students)

Francis Von Habsburg, Andy Blakeman (Conservatives)

THE BEAVER

Executive Editors: Sivan Lewin, Alexander Crawford
Managing Editor: Andy Blakeman
News: Andrew Cornwell, Shan Mitra, Tom Parker, Tom Elliot, Francisco Ferrerra, Nick Moreno.
Features: Chris Phillipsborn.
Arts: Stavros V. S. Makris, Ben Gilby.
Photography: Jennifer Clapp, Jeremy Jeffs, Vanessa Brechling,
Layout: Nico Macdonald, Kazuko Hirao.
Staff: Ross Broadstock, James Robertson, Julia Flanagan.
Special Thanks to: Helen Whiteman, Jenny Shaw, Julian Mack, and Kate Nottage for typing.
Typeset by Clerkenwell Graphics, 13 Vandy Street, EC2.
Printed by Eastway Offset.
Published by LSE Students' Union, East Building, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Tel 405 7686 ext. 2870
Individual views expressed in this issue are not necessarily those of the Beaver Collective.

AT THE UNION

By JAMES ROBERTSON

At five to two, the "bourgeoisie" started leaving in droves. An Anti-Apartheid motion had come up on the agenda, and the day's fun was over. The call to "get out on the streets", and "keep up the fight at the LSE" was just not a laughing matter. It lacked the appeal of the more distant matters that had characterised the day.

As a general rule of thumb, the more abstract or "simple" the issue, as presented to the meeting, the greater the enjoyment of the crowd, as measured in noise and projectiles. The businesslike character of previous meetings had seemed to be in danger of silencing the throng, and grounding the paper.

Indeed, with the demure Kate Meyrick looking like something out of a Sunday evening historical drama (Jane Eyre meets Carry On Up The Union), the diminutive Justin Russell in a shirt and tie, and the ever populist Nick Randall promising "a lot of business", the utilitarian trend looked set to continue. That it did not illustrated the tenuous hold of the Union elite on its wayward charges.

Things were initially held up by another election for Chair. The "no party background... neutrality and fairness" of Ross Broadstock again took on the "experience, knowledge and commitment" of Imogen Tranchell. The latter, despite the Betty Boop hairstyle, and a surreal sweater, won.

This was somewhat surprising. Francoise Gilot, artist and former mistress of Picasso said recently "that most women who have done something with their lives have been disliked by almost everyone." This seems to hold even for becoming Union Chair, and the

promise of "an orderly, representative and campaigning Union" remains to be delivered.

One of the current problems with the UGM concerns the length of time given to officers' reports. The traditional calls for written reports from other than the sabatticals is reappearing. The problem is that it is not only the sabatticals who have interesting, exciting, and humorous things to say.

Thus, Charlie Brown's brother, the returning officer, promised us elections on Nov 5. Equally funny was the plug for the Hardship Fund which appealed to the American Express Set. On each American Express card there is one word that they take very seriously; "member". Indeed, Hardship is just too passe.

It is not funny. Fortunately the paper-sellers managed to inject some much needed humour with their motion on "The Gulf War". Presumably standing out in the cold, in the wet, in 90 mph gales trying to shift a few pages of used newsprint has addled their brains. The upshot was perhaps one of the least thought out, badly worded, appallingly presented, riotously received motions in recent Union history.

Important business, not least regarding the Housing Association was bypassed in order to prioritise NUS conference motions. The "members" knew that NUS is "boring", but they also recognised the opportunity for a bit of mindless blood-letting when it was so kindly offered to them.

"You've got to start training them Nic" someone shouted from the back. Randall probably felt like using an ice-pick. For over half an hour the Union descended



into farce while people exchanged gibberish: "all these bloody ruling-classes are the same"; "my dad worked in Saudi Arabia" etc

For almost the first time, however, a move to a vote was massively defeated. The Union was paralysed: "Point of Order!" - "Get Off!" - while the "members" looked for, as one vacuous woman squealed, "another bourgeois victory".

Even Chas Begley, the Alan B'Stard of the LSE (without B'Stard's charm) made a cameo appearance to add to the incoherence, in a direct throwback to earlier Union inertia.



"Young men who would otherwise have been decent citizens were turned into monsters." So spoke LSE's own Alfred Sherman recently, referring to the work of the SS. After today's performance one could say the same about the UGM.

The paper-sellers, with this issue and with the matter of Perdition which is set to run and run (Adrian Cohen was in the Old Theatre on Thursday, presumably regarding this matter), have totally failed to analyse the nature of the Union, no, their role in it. One speaker criticized their "childish Marxist language." This is wrong. Stupidity dressed up with phrases such as "working-class" has little to do with Marx.

After the experience of recent weeks, it was a very disappointing UGM. President Ali Khamenei of Iran recently characterised the UN Security Council as "a paper factory for issuing worthless and ineffective orders." On Thursday, the UGM wasn't even that.

Stock Market

From page 1

The BP flotation? If BP shares have attained an individual value of 320p by the time of the flotation it should be a sensible investment. One final word, if you are considering making multiple share applications for the BP offer remember it is illegal and that even Tory MPs can be prosecuted.

The most recent review of the LSE investment portfolio revealed assets of some £22 million. Naturally The Beaver was concerned to find out if the school had suffered a serious loss as a result of this week's stock market crash. The School Finance Officer, Mr. C. G. Torrance, admitted that the School had "suffered like everyone else" but added the School's brokers, Baring Brothers, do not anticipate any cause for alarm. Mr. Torrance explained that the School's investments are widely spread over both the home and the global markets and are likely to quickly reattain their real worth if not climb even higher. He stressed

that the School does not stand to lose any money but that it has seen a significant reduction in potential profits.

The Careers Advisory Service does not expect the stock market crash to radically effect this year's finalists' chances of finding a job in the City. The CAS believes that the Bull market has led financial houses to pursue unrealistic recruitment programmes and it is this that has led to large numbers of younger and inexperienced members of staff being jettisoned by their employers. This year's "milk round" should bring City vacancies but in more modest quantities than in recent years.

One notable LSE casualty of the City shake-up was the former president of the LSE Investment Forum and founding member of the LSE Financial Forum, Nizam Broachi, who had been working as a market maker for Goldman-Sachs.

Abortion

From page 1

NAC's meagre resources and dire lack of funds, and suggested that this was where student FAB groups could perhaps be most helpful. The £200 (£100 to NAC, £100 to FAB) pledged by the LSESU, if repeated at other Universities, could be crucial to the campaign. She also stressed the pressing need for more office space and appealed to LSESU to make available to FAB any spare offices it might have.

The NAC's main strategy in the coming months will be to encourage trade unionists to mobilise against the bill, so that the TUC might take over the organisation of the national demonstration planned before the bill receives its third reading in March. The TUC has traditionally defended the 1967 Abortion Act and this proved to be a successful strategy last time the Act was threatened, by the John Corrie bill

in 1979. Then, a TUC organised march was attended by 80,000 people, many of whom had been won over in campaigns by rank and file trade unionists. Michelle Carlisle is hoping the unions will respond similarly this time to defeat the Alton Bill.

Tuesday's picket will be mainly locally based and is not intended to be a large scale affair, but publicity should be ensured by the presence of several national celebrities. LSE students are urged to attend the picket, and a contingent will meet at 1.30pm outside the Old Building before leaving for Westminster. In the wake of David Alton's own poll (of dubious accuracy) showing a majority of MPs to be in his favour, the FAB group is also urging students to visit its letter writing stall in the Old Building on Thursday.

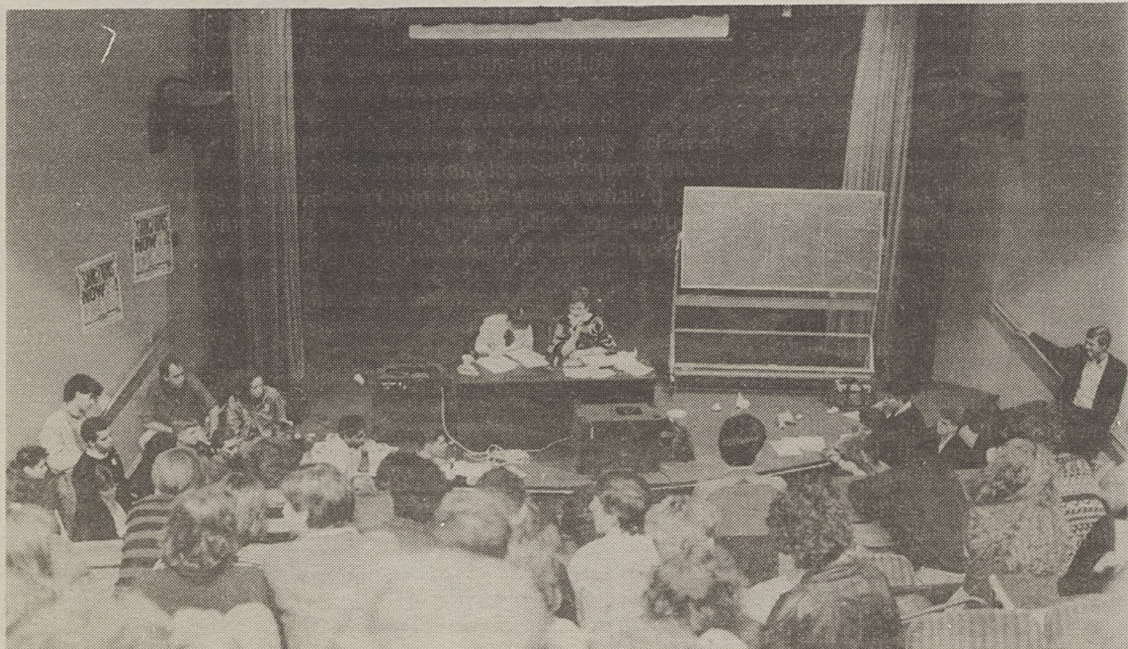


Photo: Jennifer Clapp

ULU travel

Worldwide flights • Special fares for students and academics • Tours and short breaks • Ski holidays • European trains • Group bookings

Enquiries and Bookings:

European 01-581 8233
Intercontinental 01-581 1022

East Building London School of Economics, LONDON WC2

A service of
STA
The Worldbeaters

AROUND LSE THE

Ross and Julia, with their cohort of flies on the walls (LL Cool J, ...) on another week at the LSE

Hurricanes sweep through Britain, the share market collapses, the Gulf war escalates, flooding everywhere and the Sabbatical campaign trail has started. Shock, horror, nay, this cannot be I here you say - tis only October.

However, Messieurs Davis and Hunter (Messieurs indeed!) have already been seen lurking around the depths of such dens as the Passfield bar, a place where Labour candidates have long been an endangered species. To cap it all, they're even making (or trying to make) reports at union meetings!!

Disasters also appeared on the accounting front with a perplexed J.R. and worried Sam Kung calling in Rory (last year's Senior Treasurer) to talk them through last year's accounts! The blind leading the blind or the hare leading the greyhounds - no matter how fast and hard they go, they never actually catch it.

Slick Scandal now seems to be resting on his laurels and keeping a low profile. Rumours are that this has been caused by depression after his share portfolio collapsed. (Nonsense of course).

Keeping the worst till last, the disaster of the week has to be the painting of the quadrangle greenhouse. Is yellow an attempt for neutrality or have they just got a job lot after the demise of the Liberals!

Carr Saunders

On the run-up to Amsterdam, life at Carr-Saunders is calming down and the height of this week's hectic social calendar - the elusive "Booze Concert" has again been cancelled. This time Steptoe and Son were not to blame, instead it was due to the notorious Sex Dwarves up to their usual tricks.

On the subject of cancelled events, our Saturday band "CAN'T REMEMBER" obviously didn't and the stand-in "group" - "NOT WORTH

REMEMBERING" kept everyone entertained (amused!). On the whole, they weren't too bad apart from Simon's vocals. (It wasn't that he was a bad singer, he just had difficulty hitting the right notes! -Ed.)

Simon is one of the semi-permanent residents of the "Party Flat" along with "I-can-dance-just-like-Mick-Jagger" Matt and Tim "Bumfluff" and a certain Madame

Scholet who has been seen sneaking out of Maple St. Flats with increasing regularity at 9.00am.

Continuing the theme of Young Love, Nadim is sparing no effort in pursuit of it - or anything else he can get. However, he is in danger of being out done by the "Party Flat" as new resident Tony ("I-need-a-woman-too") C. Ollie is currently living up to the Italian reputation and is doing his fair share of womanising as well (watch out Chrissie).

Other malicious rumours - will Katrina continue to top the Dancing Brave Race or is Betty catching up? ... Has Midget really fallen for Spence the Smiling Barman?? ... and is it true that Sven is the sole user of soap and hot water in Fitzroy 2/6???

Send in your answers next week on a piece of toilet paper - if you can find any in Carr-Saunders! Late news - Romano and Flavio will be giving up another concert (in Portuguese of course) next Monday.

Passfield Hall

So much for boring Passfield. Stavros seems to have provided the catalysts residents needed to get going. Hall Elections took place: Rebecca - Secretary, Olivier - Food Member, Dave & Peter - Bar Committee were returned unopposed. Jeff - Treasurer, Chas & Francis romped home as Inter-Hall Reps as did Jeanine - Overseas Officer. Jeanine got some lovely flowers which I am reliably informed were sent by one of THE BOYS. Pena & Heike were both so hysterical, that the Hall decided that neither of them deserved to lose. They have done well so far as Social Secs. The catastrophe of the evening was the election of Hall Member. Simon got the job and the less said about it the better.

Elections for President come up in 6 weeks. It is rumoured that Tim Helm, our favourite resident, has certain aspirations for the post. Panic is rife amidst rumours that Tim hopes to stand on a

platform of "LAW & ORDER". Other candidates are rumoured to be Viki, Bolaji, who's being polite to everyone (it won't help). On the point of delusions, someone propositioned our lovely Jane to position herself, horizontally on the pool table at 1:30 am. Out of curiosity, Jane turned up for the rendezvous with nothing but pool cue and balls to entertain her. Jane reckons the mysterious admirer might have been a Carr-Saunders boy.

On the point of chickens, we are still waiting for Carr-Saunders's reply to last week's challenge. Congratulations to Olivier and his "be nice to your kitchen staff" campaign amidst various conspiracies to lynch them. It was rather disturbing to note that the food member regurgitated his Sunday lunch, despite his claims to like the food (to think he is French as well!)

Despite the fact that generally Passfield men and women continue to find each other very unattractive, a few liaisons are beginning to surface. John and Suzanne? And the American Tim is supposedly on the lookout for romance. Any stray women on "F" floor are likely to be accosted by the resident "Brothers"! Meanwhile for Peter, it is a trip back to Trinidad after a killing on the Stock Market crash. It is rumoured that he is thinking of setting up classes on "How to Make Money" for all of us hapless amateur investors.

P.S. Pena is still waiting for her flowers.

P.P.S. Adnan is walking 35 miles for charity, please support him generously.

P.P.P.S. Hope to see you all at the event of the week: PASSFIELD HALLOWEEN DISCO.

The Rosebery Centre

Rosebery high-security hall maintains complete Radio Silence. The censorship policy of the secret, inner, totally anonymous committee has reached its horrible peak. All links have been cut with the outside world and rumours are that the moat is soon to be filled. What can be going on down there we ask? Has Rosebery become a Ministry of Fear? Inmates watch out because the BIG SISTERS ARE WATCHING YOU...

CARR SAUNDERS SOCIETIES

by STAVROS MAKRIS

First of all I would like to apologise for the confusion created last week over the India Society last week. The purpose of the society is to promote and enhance interest in the Indian culture. Just like all other LSE SU societies it is open to all full time LSE students regardless of race or religion. Its relationship with the Pakistan Society is and has always been one of friendship and co-operation. The society has now had its committee elected and it is already planing its activities, first of which is going to be the Diwali Night organised in the Old Theatre in order to celebrate the Indian new year.

The Jewish Society staged a great party with a variety of dishes and wild dancing. Altogether an ingenious way of getting to know people.

The South American Society attracted around fifty people and its aim is to promote cultural and political knowledge of the region. The highlight of the year is expected to be the Carnival organised with the aid of South American Embassies in London.

The Malaysian Singapore Society organised what can only be described as an absolutely brilliant affair, but then again less can not be expected of them. This time in coordination with the French and International Societies they packed loads of people, loads of booze and loads of music in a river boat and ... what a great way to see some of the most famous landmarks of London by night.

While on the subject of greatness, the French Society is holding a Croissant meeting on Thursday 29th October at 6pm. Room to be announced. The society's programme so far this year: Degustation of Beaujolais Nouveau in a French restaurant on November 20th; a variety of films and videos; conferences at the French Institute; exchange of students with Universite de Paris X.

The Revolutionary Communist Students Society will be showing the Irish Freedom Movement Video "The longest War" at 1pm, Wednesday 28th October, in room S53.

The Jewish Society is presenting a Talk by the Secretary of Parliamentary All Party War Crimes Group on "Nazi War Criminals in U.K.", on Tuesday 27th September, in S177, at 1pm.

The LSE Conservative Society is hosting a Chairman's reception on Monday, 26th October at 7pm in the Vera Anstey Room, The Old Building. Members of Parliament, LSE Conservative Association members and Simon McVicker (ex-LSE, currently the Vice Chairman of the Conservative Collegiate Forum) will be present. On Wednesday, 28th October in S75, at 2pm the first General Meeting of the Society is to be held, its aim to elect some members the new executive.

The Hellenic Society is about to start functioning soon. At present it boasts only forty members but it is hoped that, soon, the rest of the Hellenes will gather around it. They are the second largest minority in the LSE after the

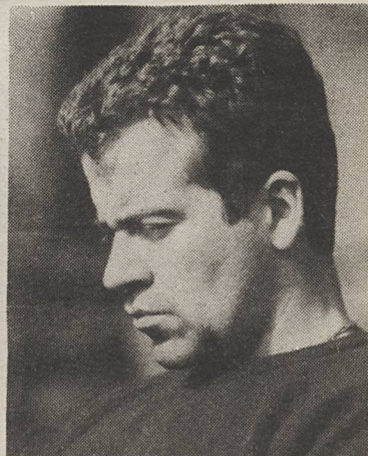


Photo: Ann Henry

Americans. Yet in the past they have failed to rally together in promotion of national interests and culture. It is hoped that this will be the year to break with tradition, if nothing else they can always host a few more wild parties. Parties which are only rivalled in popularity by the MSS but out do any other in good spirit and memorable time. On 28th October the Hellenes celebrate their standing up to the fascist onslaught of the Axis powers, what a better time to see the rebirth of their society this year.

The Italian Society is holding its elections today Monday 26th October at noon. More news about the results next week. However we have been informed that members of the society are in contact with the Italian cultural office in London which can provide interested parties with tickets for films, lectures and cultural meetings. All interested should contact the society itself.

EGEE, yes, the society you all pro-europeans are possibly dying to join has a long schedule of events planned both here and across the channel in that haven of culture, Europe. Some you have already missed, bad luck. Others you will probably not be able to afford, but I have been told to tell you anyway. At least if you never make it, just the mention of champagne, Amsterdam, Hamburg(?), and conferences in English and French will give you an idea of what you are missing. Just like watching Dysentery really, it is all make belief and you wish you were doing it too. So, 27th to 30th October go to Hamburg to discuss the European internal market. Next, three days in Seville not for a haircut but for participating in AGORA, EGEE's parliamentary meeting. The dates for this, 29th October to 1st November. Soon after you recover from this rush down, or is it up, to Aachen for two days, starting on 6th November, to participate in a conference about "Europe and the Third World". But, wait, things are getting serious in Bonn from 18th to 21st November, a chance to deal with twentieth century's disease, UNEMPLOYMENT, this is the locally organised conference on "Youth Unemployment in Europe". A must for all sci-fi fans is the "Second European Space Congress" in Munich 19th & 20th November. And for all the pure holidaymakers EGEE Monaco has organised a conference on "The Technological Cities of Europe" and, wait for it, "THEY HAVE ALSO ORGANISED A PARTY WHERE PRINCESS STEPHANIE WILL BE JUST ONE OF THE INVITES". So any of you jet set socialites waste no time in putting your name down for this, the major event of the year. Don't forget the Zinc Oxide Cream and the Wayfarers ... see you down by the sea. Of course I will be staying on my namesake's yacht but then you are not doing so badly yourselves.



Photo: Jennifer Clapp

Vth COLUMN

Complacency in the Eye of the Hurricane

While Sir Nicholas Goodison was proudly explaining the workings of his Stock Exchange to students of the LSE, billions of pounds were being wiped off share values in London and all over the world.

The Chairman of the Stock Exchange was giving the first of the term's Chaplaincy Talks, entitled "ThInterest?" He began with an unexciting and thankfully brief "Interest?" He began with an unexciting and thankfully brief introduction to the City and the Stock Exchange itself. He explained that the City was "shivering at recent arrests", but due to large increases in resources from the government and new technology, criminals inside the Stock Exchange, and especially insider dealers, were having to work much more carefully than previously.

The Stock Exchange, Goodison argued, plays a vitally important role as writer and enforcer of ethical morals. He claimed that the Stock Exchange held a good record as regulator of their rules, and that since 1951, no private investor has lost money through default. Having said that, he emphasised that there was no complacency amongst the regulators of the Stock Exchange - We must always watch like a hawk.

As to whose interest the City is acting in, Sir Nicholas stated that the financial services industry works in the interest of industries and investors, and that if it did not, they would never have a chance of making profits and

hence increasing employment.

The assumption that greater profits lead to greater employment tends to make economists laugh, but Sir Nicholas seemed to be very pleased with the direction the Stock Exchange was heading. Less than two days after he had made this remark, share values had slumped by £94 billion. On Monday morning, he had said that Tokyo share prices were very expensive and was not surprised about the Stock Exchange collapse in Japan, while share prices in London were unlikely to follow suit. By Wednesday, "The Guardian" newspaper reported that Sir Nicholas saw the fall as a correction to the stock market surge over the last year" but added that he felt that there was an "element of unreasonable panic."

Sir Nicholas told students of the LSE that the UK was "now growing faster than any other country in the OECD", and that the UK was "no longer the sick man of Europe." However, in this country at the moment, unemployment is falling but still high, the number of homeless is rising, the education system is in tatters, the National Health Service is crumbling, and the Balance of Payments crisis is about to re-emerge as a constraint on the UK's economic growth.

While the yuppies count their losses on the Stock Exchange, it is sad to see a figure such as the Chairman of the Stock Exchange showing such complacency with this country's present position.

Indian Storm

By MARK WYNNE-JONES

Mass protest disrupted the bizarre elections held in this term's first India Society meeting. After only a few candidates had been elected to their new posts, many members - mostly 1st year students - left the meeting early, bitterly disappointed by what they claimed to be the "unfairness" of the elections.

Details concerning the elections have been very hard to come by, and that in itself is an admittance that there is something to hide. The few who have spoken out against the elections to *The Beaver* were very anxious that their names would not be revealed. Those who organised the elections hid behind closed doors and made no comment apart from criticising an article in the last issue of *The Beaver* which said that "though (the India Society) claims to be a society for all peoples of the Asian Subcontinent it is called the India Society." Though this comment outraged the hierarchy of the Society, accusations have been levelled by some members that an attempt is being made to bar all non-Indians from the Society.

The elections themselves were apparently of a rather biased na-

ture, in that the more difficult questions were asked to the candidates that the executives did not want to be voted in. There was no contest for the position of General Secretary; and four candidates stood for Treasurer. Perhaps as many as three of them soon realised they were up against unfair competition.

The main rumpus came after the elections for the Social Secretary - the executives overruled the floor vote by stating that there were a number of "proxy votes" for the up-till-then defeated candidate to enable him to win the seat. When the constitution committee rejected appeals for a re-count, the walk-out began; and as a compromise, there are two Social Secretaries.

Later on, a member of the committee was said to be clearly upset by sexist remarks made to her during the committee meeting. Observers say that the election farce has much to do with the Guadjerati "mafia" who run the India Society and are the dominant Indian social group in Britain. In particular it is pointed out that the candidate overruled by proxy votes was a Sikh - a possible pointer to ethnic discrimination.

VOX POP

Do you support the Alton Abortion Bill?

by JENNIFER CLAPP and VANESSA BRECHLING



Anne Marie Van Swinderen

Well, I just read in the Observer that babies can be saved at 23 weeks into the pregnancy, and I must admit that it is strange to kill a foetus after this point. The only reason that I am in favour of abortion is because a foetus is not a real baby. I'm opposed to restrictions on it because then only the rich people will be able to afford to go to Holland for their abortions.



Dana Selig

No. I know it's going to sound cliché, but I believe every man and woman has the right to decide whether or not they want to have a child, and it's not up to any man in Parliament to tell a woman when she can and can't go into labour.



Larry Guidi

Yes, I would agree. If they're going to choose, I think they should know by 4 months. 7 months is a long time period. We're talking about the rights of the baby. At four and a half months, women should know what they want to do with their future. At four and a half months a foetus is pretty matured and it has already taken on human qualities.



Oliver Rduch

I think one should have an abortion whenever they want to. If a person is unable to care for the child and doesn't have any moral or caring feelings for the child, then the child will grow up unwanted.



Clive Jefferies

I would support it if he could back it up by guaranteeing all women who want an abortion within the 18 week period can have one. It's very difficult to tell when the foetus becomes a human baby.



Becky Faith

No, I'm completely opposed to the Bill. It's a savage attack on women's rights. As far as I can see, it's the mother's right to choose what to do with her life. The state shouldn't have the right to make moral decisions for the mother.



Jonathon Sinclair

No. I think that women should have as many rights as possible in that respect. If you reduce the time limit, you can no longer have an abortion if you find that the child will be badly handicapped.

Goodbye Scotland

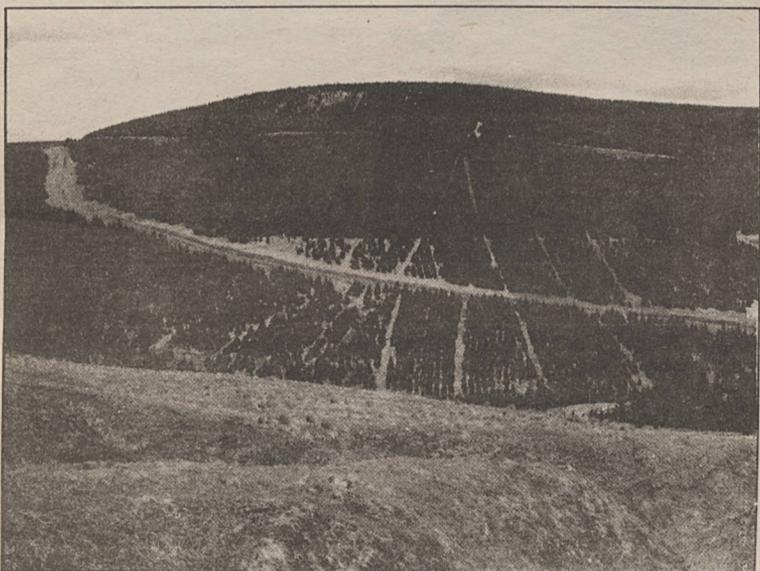
Stephen Moriarty on the plague of trees threatening Scotland

If you want to visit Scotland to enjoy its extraordinarily beautiful landscape don't leave it too long. The country is being turned into a tree factory. Don't let anyone tell you planting trees is always a good and natural thing to do. There is nothing natural about American Sitka Spruce appearing in straight lines in Perthshire. What is going on up there is highly intensive monoculture on land which was the largest area of real wilderness left in Europe.

So the first awful irony is that in this case planting trees, which in so much of the world is not being done where it should be, is destroying the landscapes and wildlife of Scotland. The second is that, unlike any other area of industry in Thatcher's Britain, the free market is not the guiding principle. If it were, there would be a great deal less forestry in Scotland. The government is supporting the industry with public money. The cynical amongst you will already have worked out why: almost the only beneficiaries of this environmental tragedy are rich and English. The Highlanders are aware of the evil amongst them, but so depressed is their region, and so reluctant is the government to find development that would really help them, that they recoil from biting the only hand that feeds them. The forestry industry provides about one job per £200,000 of investment. Expensive employment creation; trees grow by themselves. Treasury Reviews have admitted there are better ways to create employment in Scotland.



the investor about £400 per acre over a six to ten year period. This is where the government money comes in. There is a forestry grant of £100 per acre and full tax relief amounting to £180 per acre. In total something like 70% of the private forrester's costs are paid for by the government. After ten



Who is benefiting then? First of all there are the private forestry companies. These now do most of the planting in Scotland. To make money, they must continually plant new forests, approximately 60 square miles per year. They have a combined turnover of £30-40 million per annum. They get their money to do this from people who pay top rate income tax of 60% per annum (Pay attention accountancy students!). These are the super-rich in general, and include such kindly looking gents as Terry Wogan and Steve Davis. The company buys hundreds of acres of moorland for them and plants it with trees. The land is scarred with access roads and divided with fences. All this costs

years or so the land is sold to a different type of investor, such as a pension fund. There is, as an incentive, no Capital Gains Tax on that sale. Hill farming receives nothing like this support and is being pushed aside.

Pension funds are tax-free anyway, so secondary investors can choose a tax schedule which relieves them from paying tax when the trees are felled and sold. Thus a tax-free profit is made on a tax-free government subsidised investment. I expect most of you have stopped reading and are making an appointment with your accountant. Sit back and watch your money grow on trees!

Well it makes me bloody angry. I can hardly bear to visit Scotland

nowadays. There is a valley in the island of Mull which runs in an exquisite curve about eight miles long out to a perfect bay at the end of a loch. It is a place of moving beauty. A couple of years ago it was planted with coniferous trees, a process which involved scoring trenches, dead straight, a yard or two apart, across the valley. When I was last there, it looked like someone was planning a repeat battle of Ypres, only with more trenches closer together. Soon the trees will be a few feet high, an impenetrable thicket, and when they are grown nothing else apart from the trees and their few parasites will live there. A successful exercise in perfectly geometric needless environmental destruction. Coniferous trees allow no light to the forest floor, so there are no plants and thus no food chain. Britain, which has only one species of native coniferous tree, the Scots Pine, lacks plants and animals that can live in this barren habitat. The Scots Pine was, indeed, the original forest cover in Scotland. Only small pockets remain. This tree makes fine woodland - the trees grow slowly and have great spaces between them. The effect is more like parkland, and the rounded shapes of the tree canopies make a landscape which is delightful. Sadly there is no money in Scots Pines.

This is an age of economic realism though, isn't it? Britain must be benefiting dramatically. Well this is doubtful. As I mentioned above, the forestry companies made their money by planting, not felling. They can make more money by planting the cheapest land they can buy, land which is often totally unsuitable for growing trees of any quality. Only the tax angle makes much forestry profitable. Britain would

be better off investing that money in other forms of industry. Whatever improvement importing less wood would do to our balance of payments it would be outweighed by similar scale investment in an exporting industry. We are wasting our money. There is such a thing as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. There is one called Creag Meagaidh in the Central Highlands. They are not really protected, merely designated. A forestry company made a profit of £130,000 without even planting a tree. There is practically no control on tree planting in Scotland. The toothless consultancy procedures that do exist do not take into



account wildlife factors and are anyway being ignored by the industry, since even if they lose their right to government grants by not consulting the Forestry Commission they can still make money on the tax relief alone. Scandal surrounds the industry.

All this should be stopped. Trees permanently damage the landscape if they are grown and felled as a crop. The government have been slow to address the issue. Some ministries have signalled their desire to bring in some kind of control, which considering the pressure the city-based forestry companies have been bringing to bear on the government to actually increase forestry, speaks volumes. If even some Tories, defenders of the right of the rich to tax evasion, are calling something bad, it must be bloody disgusting. And it is.

Meanwhile Scotland is being turned into a dead place, sprayed with insecticides to kill the pests and empty of merlins, golden eagles, red-throated divers, green-shanks, golden plovers and many other birds and animals which are Scotland's jewels. A unique place is being made ugly to make a very few rich bastards even richer.

If you want to find out more there is an excellent booklet entitled "The Theft of the Hills" by S C Tompkins published by the Ramblers' Association (1/5 Wandsworth Road SW8) and funded by the World Wildlife Fund (someone must be trying to buy Balmoral). Mr Tompkins worked for a forestry company for five years. He left the industry in order to fight it. Besides the Ramblers Association, which represents the interests of hill-walkers, there is the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. It has been fighting a long struggle to save the hills and moors and perhaps represents the most effective anti-forestry organization at present.

Bourgeois Deviationism Bites Back

James Robertson a pondering vegetarian writes

In our kitchen, on one of the walls that isn't falling down, there is a piece of yellowing LSE notepaper. "To know the cause of things" says the beaver. It displays a series of quotes, in various pens, and various hands. They hark back to the days when intra-house debate, (a house is a thing you live in... when I first got to the LSE, students were occasionally able to find somewhere to live), could not be conducted on a face to face basis. The subject of debate was too controversial, too personal. You would get up in the morning to find a new addition to the argument, secretly penned under the cover of darkness. You could only let the exchange of views run its course...

We were, of course, addressing the unhappy state of our vegetarian-carnivore relations. The labourite, pale and thin, (apart from his growing beer belly), disinterred with George Orwell to bolster his conservative tastes:

"The food crank is by definition a person willing to cut himself off from human society in the hope of adding five years on to the life of his carcass; that is a person out of touch with common humanity." He encapsulated the blinkered vision of "the Left" with his own delvings on the matter, i.e. that "Hitler was a veggie", a quote that spoke volumes for the quality of his (LSE) education.

The proto (and now exceedingly successful) journalist, displayed a natural talent for his vocation. To suggest that Che Guevara ever ventured the observation that "veggies are full of shit", could not even be considered a misquote, but dragging such a revolutionary hero down to this level of debate illustrated the passions which the issue of food aroused.

I had become a vegetarian when we moved out of Carr Saunders Hall. It had taken me over a year to put together thought and deed,

but with Saunders' idea of a vegetarian diet being a boiled egg three times a day, the threat of starvation put off increasing thoughts of "principle".

Once I had to start cooking for myself, whatever produced would be of uniform awfulness, so principle was back as an optional extra. I still use dairy products and wear leather shoes, so there are those who suggest that it wasn't much of an extra, but there you are; two wrongs do not make a right, to quote the hopelessly overused phrase by Edmond Burke, "Nobody made a greater mistake than he [or she] who did nothing because he [or she - Edmund Burke was a man of his time] could do only a little". Thus no meat (or fish) for three and a half years and counting...

My arguments for giving up meat were the usual ones: the waste of food resources involved in fattening up animals while people starve; and the cruelty of the food industry. The first argument is questionable insofar as human starvation is more to do with the incredibly skewed distribution of resources; within states, from Britain (how many pensioners will die this winter because they can't afford to eat and still pay their bills?), to India, to Ethiopia; and within the (capitalist) international economy, rather than an overall lack of resources; the second I believe to be uncontested, accusations of hypocrisy notwithstanding. Thus next to the beaver, I quoted that reactionary Doris Lessing, who suggested that it is "the atrophy of the imagination that prevents us from seeing ourselves in every living creature that breathes under the sun." Or, as NME put it recently, cows are people too, boo hoo hoo...

The LSE being a cosmopolitan college in a cosmopolitan town, the vegetarian might expect to find a lot of like-minded souls. And indeed he does. But a similar diet

only provides a limited range of shared experience with others. People who have come to terms with what they eat seem to be less hung up about it. It's only a (relatively) big thing to others, who feel intimidated by the presumed moralising from the plate.

Being white, male and (by education) middle-class, and having lost my accent, I had never really found myself in any clearly identified minority. Now, daily, my "politics" were being put on the table. Within liberal circles at the LSE this proved problematic with regard to two groups. Firstly, there were those who become committed vegetarians for a couple of months, but who, on the point of going vegan, return to meat-eating consensus, claiming to have tired of their crass individualism.

Meanwhile, the consensus is upheld by the "meat militants", who worship the meat-eating in macho fashion, explaining their mindlessness, in a similar way to which others champion "The Sun", as a celebration of "working-class" tastes and values. Because lots of

"ordinary" people eat meat, it is perverse not to. Take me to the slaughter-house.

An important tenet of the consensus is that vegetarianism is boring. A boring existence, it seems, must be one of the exclusive preserves of the (not) "working-class". Nevertheless, the point is not something I would dispute. Insofar as food is fuel rather than art (or politics), food, per se, has little to do with being a vegetarian.

Indeed, when NUS point out that the average student has only something like 65% of the necessary amount to spend on food, eating, at least as far as students are concerned, is hardly an "us" and "them" issue, but neither is the matter of animal rights or animal liberation. These issues cannot be pushed in isolation from broader political questions. The "meat militants" and others should bear this in mind as the ranks of vegetarians continue to grow. Meanwhile, the "debate" goes on.



Photo: Jennifer Clapp

The Cafe

Students Union Vegetarian Restaurant

"The Cafe" was set up in the summer of 1986 and opened on 13th October. Everyone was wondering whether or not it would be successful. Could it compete with the "Brunch Bowl's" meat and 2 veg outlet? Did people really want soggy ham rolls, stodgy pasties, and greasy bacon butties? Well, the answer is NO! The success of "The Cafe" is obvious from the response we have had from everyone, the massive queues at lunchtime and feedback from the students. People want an alternative to the typical canteen food available in most colleges in the country so the decision from the sabbaticals and staff in 1986 to set up a healthy vegetarian cafe for the Students Union was a very sound one. It also reflects general eating patterns and trends towards a meat free diet. Speaking to our customers over the last academic year we have found many have been converted to vegetarian food

by the different range of dishes we have on offer and combinations of vegetables and pulses that encourage people to experiment more at home. The approach to a completely vegetarian diet is very different from one based around meat. Your protein source for instance may come from your dessert rather than your main course and the use of fresh produce becomes paramount. The fresher your vegetables are, the more vitamins are contained, raw sprouts, beans, wheat, lentils, etc. are good sources of vitamins and fibre so essential in a healthier diet.

If you would like any advice on heating, eating or how to prepare vegetarian dishes, our cooking staff are happy to help you in any way they can - but please don't ask at lunchtime.

In "The Cafe" we use only natural ingredients, no artificial flavouring or colouring in any of our food. We use no animal pro-

duct or by-products in the food preparation and if any one has any special dietary needs the chefs will be happy to advise you of the contents of all the dishes. The same applies to those on a Vegan diet.

In the last four years there has been quite a definite swing towards meat free diets and we are proud here at LSE to be the first 100% Vegetarian restaurant in a college and hope that our success will encourage other colleges to do the same. We have shown how home style food can be prepared in a large scale catering environment.

We would also like to thank all students and staff alike who helped and encouraged us through our first hectic year and helped us establish our reputation.

Shirlee Posner
Catering Manager

Where to eat when you don't eat meat

compiled by Val Small

Country Life N.Y. Vegetarian Restaurant

1 Heddon Street
London W1
01-434 2922

Opens Mon-Fri
Food Store upstairs; Restaurant downstairs.

Christy's Healthline
122-126 Wardour Street
London W1
01-434 4468

Opens Mon-Fri 8am to midnight
Sat 1030 to midnight
Sun 1230 to 11pm

Compton Green

14 Old Compton Street
London W1
01-434 3544

Opens 7 days: 1130-1530 and 1730-2330

Cranks

8 Marshall Street
London W1
01-437 9431

Opens Mon-Fri 8am to 2230

Sat 9am to 2230

Food For Thought

31 Neal Street
London WC2
01-836 0239

Opens Mon-Fri 12 noon to 8pm

STUDENTS!

NEW SKILLS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS THE EASY WAY

Ever wished you could type?
Well now you can - easily.

Sight & Sound offer fully comprehensive training - fast - in typing, audio, shorthand, word/data processing, book-keeping and computer studies. Part-time courses start daily, full time start every Monday. Daytime or evenings - you choose.

★ SPECIAL OFFER! ★

15% discount on production of Union Card

Call now, and learn a new skill for life!

SIGHT & SOUND

Charing Cross Road 836 9045
Fulham 381 4655 Archway 263 9700

Dodgy Deal on Drugs

Policy of fear victimises addicts rather than offering a cure

By A. HALL

What do you think about the new AIDS prevention/anti-heroin ads in the tube stations, streets and on our tellys?

I hate them. How dare they stick up such pictures in public places?!

First thing in the morning, you're still half asleep and no doubt feeling ill after last night, you stumble into the tube station and collapse on a bench, open your eyes and see, splattered on the wall opposite, a huge, blood-filled syringe lying on a bed of blood-stained bandages which look like they've been ripped off a gunshot wound.

No wonder there's a pile of puke on the ground next to the bench! I'm glad I'm not squeamish. I feel sorry for people who faint at the sight of blood. Perhaps they take a different route to work now.

And what about on late-night T.V.? Pleasant, relaxing, pre-dropping off to sleep viewing is interrupted by disgusting slow-motion pics of self-mutilation - enough to give you nightmares - better than any horror film.

I begin to think that the real purpose of this propaganda is anti-junkie: beware drug takers! AIDS spreading monsters. They wouldn't dare show the same T.V. ad with slow motion scenes of anal intercourse without a condom, even though far more AIDS victims are homosexuals than heroin addicts.

Psychology research shows preventive advertising (e.g. drink-driving causes more deaths than heroin) is most effective if fear arousal is SMALL and BRIEF, and is followed by a message. But in these its HUGE and PROLONGED fear arousal followed by brutal command. The posters are so repulsive you're likely to turn away before you've even read the message. But the unspoken message is still clear. Junkies are repulsive. No sympathy for AIDS victims. It's their own fault for being immoral. (Probably better off dead anyway - certainly safer for us normal people.)

It is strange that the social and political aspects of drugs are not a major student issue considering that most students come into contact with drugs and many are actively involved in drugs, even if it's limited to alcohol consumption.

We are afraid to even talk publicly about problems connected with drug abuse, although we are all intrinsically aware of them. But as Freud has shown us, repressed problems do not get solved, they get worse. We shouldn't let government and police intimidation prevent us from discussing the drugs problem

and making it a central issue for students.

Amsterdam is well known for its liberal attitude to drugs. In 1979 1,000 addicts occupied a building in the city in protest at police harassment and lack of help. An extensive helping system was set up as a result. Since this time, the number of addicts has not risen.

This is more than can be said for Britain, despite government anti-drug propaganda. Its emphasis on the "forbidden" nature of drug-related behaviour forces people to hide or deny any problems they may have, and severely decreases the chances that they will even approach a clinic.

Paranoid just from the side-effects of the drugs, drug-users are constantly reminded that they are disliked and anti-social. Reports of drug busts and heavy sentences for selling and possession (e.g. Olivia Channon) make it unlikely that any sane person is going to give themselves up to a government-sponsored clinic presenting itself as a haven for junkies. The messages are too contradictory. Free methadone? Cheese in the mousetrap.

Where needle-exchanges are successful in Amsterdam, trial ones that opened in Scotland are closing down because so few people went to them. And if anyone had the courage to turn up, well-intentioned locals drove them away, protecting their community from the influx of dangerous, child-corrupting, aids-infested criminals.

In Amsterdam, there is a junkie's union whose main function seems to be to remind people that junkies are human beings, and should be treated as such. Of course the Dutch are still far from solving their drug problem, but they are making more progress than we are.

The remarkable and unjustified difference in public attitude towards heroin addicts and alcohol addicts is only enhanced by terrifying ads such as the ones which provoked this article. Far more help and sympathy is available to alcoholics than to junkies. But the recovery rate is as low for alcoholism as for heroin addiction.

Contrary to Esther Rantzen's message, few junkies are "cured". Like alcoholics, they get caught in a pattern of "coming off" and relapsing. That is why the system in Amsterdam is more effective. The problem is made public and is easier to control, since addicts are more willing to come for help and advice, fewer drug related deaths, and fewer people getting started on heroin. That is what the figures reflect. Pity we can't say the same for the U.K.

COMMENT

Professor Michael Zander on the Right to Silence.

The Home-Secretary, with the support of some senior Police officers and Lord Lane (the Lord Chief Justice), has recently resurrected a proposal of the 1972 Criminal Law Revision Committee which recommended that the defendant's right to silence be abolished. This would mean that if a suspect remained silent, both the Judge and the prosecution could comment on it in court.

Professor Zander, who opposes this, thinks that "we would change the balance from a presumption of innocence to one of guilt, and you must always presume innocent". Lord Lane has called the Right to Silence a "Bill Sykes Law". In his view it was needed a hundred years ago when illiterate suspects

could not read the statements they had to sign, but now only serves to protect experienced criminals. In reply to this Professor Zander acknowledged that the law sometimes protects the guilty but thought that most defendants were "still inarticulate and in need of the protection of a right to silence". He said it was "a fallacy that innocent people have nothing to hide" and apart from the problem of an innocent person being in full possession of all his faculties "innocent defendants may be trying to protect a friend".

Was there, I asked, an increased risk on innocent people going to prison? "In theory" he thought there was, but as most people are "not silent but loquacious" during

interrogation there might not be much difference in practice. He said it was "stupid to abandon such an important principle for such a trivial advantage in practice."

Professor Zander did not consider the Government "absolutely hostile to Civil Liberties" and said that the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill had "contained advances for both sides". He thought that the Home Secretary was "very serious indeed" about changing the law but pointed out that apart from the considerable opposition of the Bar Council and Law Society any attempt to abolish the right to silence would run into difficulties in the House of Lords.

·F·F·
FINANCIAL
FUTURES

DO YOU WANT TO BE AMONGST THE BEST PAID GRADUATES NEXT YEAR?

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER
FINANCIAL FUTURES ARE RUNNING A
ONE DAY INTENSIVE INTRODUCTION TO
INVESTMENT BANKING

Incorporating: The Eurobond Market, Corporate Finance, The Stock Market, Bank Lending, Foreign Exchange, Investment Management, Job Applications, Interview Technique, and "Secret Weapons" for Getting Jobs.

Designed: to give a thorough appreciation of the opportunities available to undergraduates in this highly competitive area and give them an advantage in the selection process.

GIVE YOURSELF AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE

The course is extremely intensive and participation in a number of Exercises and Case Studies is highly encouraged. This course is unique in its capacity to allow participants to gain an independent knowledge of the City without being exposed to individual corporate bias from recruiting institutions.

- Do you know how to sell yourself at interviews?
- How can you maximise your potential?

EVERY STUDENT RECEIVES A FULL INFORMATION PACK WHICH WILL PROVIDE AN ESSENTIAL REFERENCE TOOL FOR APPLICATIONS

THE BEST GRADUATE SALARIES GO TO THE BEST PREPARED GRADUATES

To apply for the programme please detach and complete the section below or send similar details, together with your payment for £25.00 to:

FINANCIAL FUTURES
15 CASTLETOWN ROAD
LONDON W14 9HF

NAME _____

INSTITUTION _____

TERM ADDRESS _____

DEGREE SUBJECT _____

POSTCODE _____

Please include me on the FINANCIAL
FUTURES One Day Programme on
Investment Banking.

SIGNED _____

You will receive a confirmation of your application together with course material upon receipt of payment

Jazz

Jottings of a Jazz Junkie – Opening Shots

Jazz. To your average music listener four or five years ago the word meant something that you dad or even your grandad liked. And one could dig into the latest John Peel or NME fare with the secure knowledge that this was hipper and more *today*, more *now*. However the vast majority of rock musicians have seemed unable to respond to the cultural crisis that is Thatcherism other than falling prey either to self pity or the naked greed of "successfulness". The result of this seems to be that rock music today in general seems to be incapable of anything more than repackaging little bits of its own corpse. Even punk, the only rock music that was not almost entirely derived from black Americans, that did have genuine roots amongst the people that played and listened to it, ended up as stadium rock driven a la U2 and Simple Minds. As for *experimental* rock, as we so proudly call it, well have you actually *heard* Cabaret Voltaire, 23 Skidoo or A Certain Ratio lately? Second, nay,



third rate whiteboy funk bands the lot of them, and *boring* at that. Really very boring. Hardly a portrait of vital, angry or energetic youth.

It is only against this background, this utter failure of white youth in Europe to generate a music of its own, that a tremendous resurgence of interest in black music of all kinds, traditional and modern, has occurred, not just jazz, but soul, hip hop, rhythm & blues, salsa, soca, gospel, juju, you name it. And if you're new to London then you're in luck because however horrible it might be in a million other respects it is still one of the most vibrant and varied live music centres in the world. The occurrence of a new interest in jazz amongst both black and white young players and listeners has done more than a little to consolidate this status. For the first time since the early 1960s, London does really seem to be a Jazz City.

However, rather than simply repeating all the eulogies to the new players, I would like to add a note of caution and perhaps dissent. Firstly, a large dose of revivalism can be found amongst many of the "Hard Bop" bands, these are inspired by the impossibly constant purveyor of Black Classical Music Art Blakey and the 1950s groups of Max Roach and Clifford Brown, such as the Tommy Chase Quartet and the Jazz Renegades, both of whom are nevertheless well worth seeing. A little more progressive are the players inspired by the late and great hero of the 1960s *Avant Garde*, saxophonist John Coltrane. Coltrane's integrity, demeanour and phenomenal virtuosity have made him

a powerful influence particularly for young black players like Courtne Pine and Steve Williamson who had previously felt restricted within the musical confines of reggae. It seems that the popularity of these players can not really be attributed to their originality or indeed simply to their music at all. Players like Alan Skidmore and Simon Picard have been playing this type of music for years and have been accorded very little acclaim or respect. I suspect that the cultural and sexual imagery called to mind by the idea of the young black saxophonist in a smooth suit and expensive leather shoes has been very persuasive, both for the players themselves and for the (black and white) audience. It is worth noting as well that, with the exception of Gail Thompson, women have found little role in this music at all.

As a whole then the jazz revival entails a great deal more nostalgia than one might imagine and this inevitably limits creativity and gives

the greatest rewards to the backward looking. The harking back to good old days of golden forms, natty suits and Blue Note album sleeves has had the effect of bolstering re-release record sales, but has substantially increased the incomes and profiles of surprisingly few working musicians. Some clearly have benefitted, but these benefits have been confined to a very narrow spectrum of those active in jazz and its associated forms in Britain today, and many of the most creative have certainly been excluded. Thus, behind a Courtney Pine, a Steve Williamson or an Andy Shepherd (none of whom I would wish to denigrate in any way), lie hundreds of players who are barely scraping a living, just *aching* to play, or who have been playing and recording professionally for twenty or thirty years, or who are working in new, and as yet unrecognised, areas of music. Try hearing Pete McPhail, Alan Tomlinson, Phil Minton, Paul Rutherford or Roger Turner just for starters, all have developed singular and highly mature musical philosophies.

The point I'm trying to make is that jazz is a lot wider and involves a greater amount of fanatically committed people than a survey of the recent "Jazz Revival" would admit. They are, perhaps, not that hip or handsome, they will never get into The Face or Arena, but they have been there all along and will stay there, because their love, energy and commitment is unmovable. I hope to tell you about these musicians as well as those who are legends or who are rising young stars in the coming months.

Richard

Music

Chuck Brown and the Soul Searchers

The man in the white suit and the alligator skin shoes just happens to be a legend. He wears the clothes of a showman and the gold-toothed grin of a shining star. Here in his hotel room is Chuck Brown, godfather of GoGo.

Playing at London's Astoria Theatre last week, with his band The Soul Searchers he kept the crowd happy-footing it until 3.30 in the morning with a GoGo beat that sent one song bubbling into another. What's GoGo? Chuck Brown:

GoGo is a funky music. It's a lot of percussion and audience participation. We feed off the audience and they respond and motivate us. We become involved and they become involved with us. You just go on and on. The fans gave it the name. GoGo is crazy in DC.

Washington is Brown's home town and the centre of a music he has fathered and which has dancefloors moving across America and Britain.

The idea started with me years ago. I was with a Latin-funk group called The Great Adventurers. They were the ones who gave me the idea.

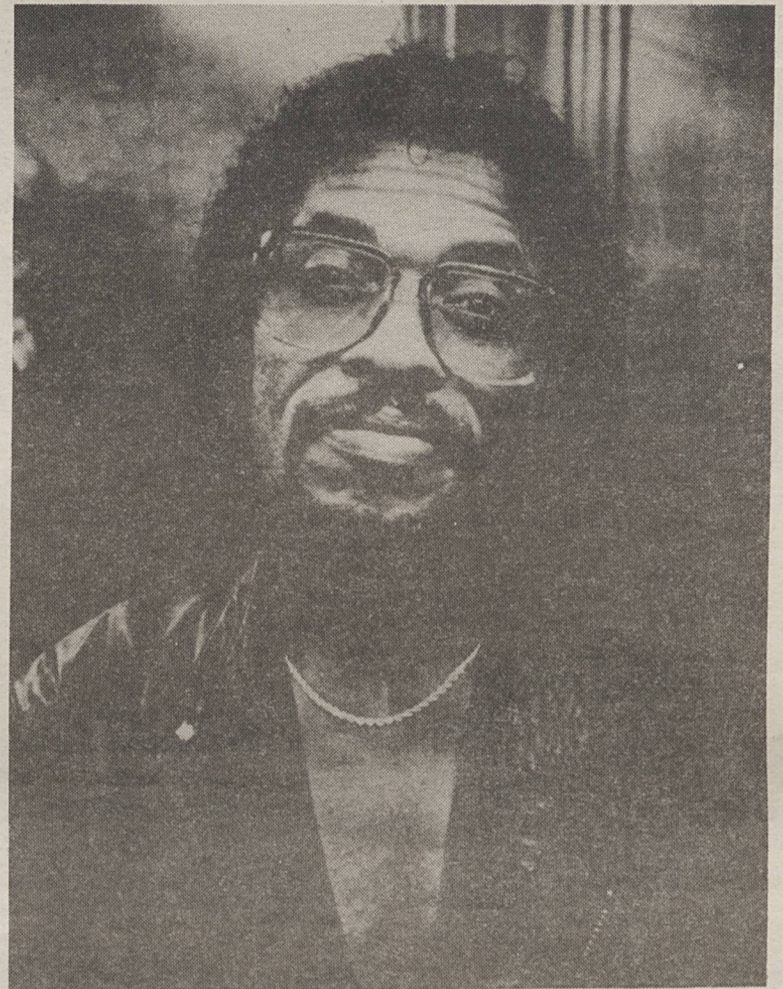
Trouble Funk's "Still Smoking" and "Drop The Bomb", GoGo Lorenzo's "You Can Dance If You Want To", EU Freeze's "Family Affair" are all sounds and bands that owe their GoGo swing to Chuck Brown. And after twenty-five years, he is still moving forward. His role now is more relaxed: as well as bandleader he has also become something of a mentor.

Our drummer... he was so small when he started working with me that I used to hide him behind the speakers until the place got packed, then I'd let him come on. I've known him since he was a baby, now he has his own band, and he's been on the road with various artists, with giants.



Much fun was had by all at ULU, as everyone joined in the Caribbean partying and festivities, though most people lacked the percussion.

Photo: Kapil Chadda



Our Conga player too, he's eighteen years old, and he can play every instrument in the band. Young people are very sharp: they teach me a lot and we've learnt from each other. It's not just Chuck Brown, it's Chuck Brown and The Soul Searchers. It's a family and it has many talents in it.

Chuck Brown's contemporaries, Stevie Wonder, Sly Stone, and James Brown are already known to a wider audience; I love those artists. Their songs inspired me. I guess, over the last twenty-five years, I've sung just about every major hit tune that Stevie has done

and I have a tremendous respect and admiration for James Brown and what he's done in furthering Black music.

When I was a kid, you had no such thing as a Black radio. You had to listen to what was there. Back then, we used to play raw just with basic equipment. I had a four piece band at the time, and we used to get no more than \$10 a man.

Today, the sophistication of his live set is testimony to his success. GoGo is big, and while he has little time for GoGo bands like Trouble Funk and their chart-oriented sound, he includes songs from Prince and L L Cool J in his repertoire. It is the will to change that has kept him on top for all these years.

There has to be change. If you get to my age, if you don't watch yourself, you will be set in your ways. GoGo, especially, is based on listening. It's all feel and playing by ear. I don't even know what I am going to play next, nothing is ever planned; it's a feel, it's like building a chain, you start at the top and you work yourself around, it's like a circle. We are even set up that way on stage. It's like joining hands and chanting.

And he draws from the widest possible sources to create that feel.

I grew up listening to Blues, Ballads, Mambo, which is called Reggae now, and Jazz. I love all music, I even love some Opera. I'd love to be playing Blues but I don't know if anyone is ready for that yet. Maybe soon.

Chuck Brown is no longer so young, but he's got a spirit and a passion for music that far outstrips his years. *We're still searching for our own identity. That's why we are called The Soul Searchers, and until we find it we are not going to stop. Let's hope we find it soon.*

Ekow Eshun

Bookreviews

The European Gay Review



"... Queers, that noun which describes gay people as outsiders, 'abnormals' sheltering in the midst of good society..."

(p.83 Euro Gay Review Vol II)

... This second volume of the European Gay Review not only makes such a statement seem ludicrous, but leaves a real impression upon the reader that gay culture and politics are an established integral part of the cultural, contemporary world.

Made up of a collection of well written and readable articles, the Review covers a whole spectrum of issues involving gay men and the interaction between the homosexual community and society as a whole.

Although aimed at both the homosexual and heterosexual, it is hard to imagine a non-gay reader being attracted to articles entitled "Homosexuality in Brazil" or "Mauritz Stillers The Wings and Early Scandinavian Gay Cinema" and if I had not been given it, would probably never have hunted it out.

However, it is informative, thought provoking (intelligently written), and not exclusively a resume of "arty" homosexual works. The articles on British hypocrisy towards homosexuals, and Gay violence for example are ones which all "aware" people (of whom we have so many at the LSE!) will find very stimulating.

The first article (on homosexual images in contemporary cinema) is particularly noteworthy, as it draws attention to homosexual innuendo in films, which most of the audience (and censors) would never

have picked up on – reinforcing a theme running throughout being, that homosexuality is a well established, almost ingrained feature of our society.

Some beautiful drawings and photographs of Gericault's works put the finishing touch to a well presented and polished piece of work.

Well worth a read.
Pam Giddy

(The Editor Salvatore Santagati is engaged in research and teaching at the LSE).

Perfume

by Patrick Suskind King Penguin £3.95.

Every once in a while a book stands out above all others. For me this book is Perfume. It is a beautifully lyrical book set in eighteenth century France. Siiskind's original style allows the reader unexpected glimpses of humour amongst the



vivid descriptions of human deprivation and filth.

Take for instance a young woman about to give birth in a back street of Paris. She stands at her stall gutting fish, all the time contemplating the fact that she still has most of her teeth and hair and "except for gout and syphilis and a touch of consumption" there was nothing seriously wrong with her.

The book is essentially about smells. Putrid and decaying odours from which rises Jean-Baptiste Grenouille. A misfit, but distinctive from infancy for being "the finest nose in Paris". Grenouille, parfumeur extraordinaire, contradicts by his ability to create any scent imaginable while he himself remains odourless. This is a modern "gothic" tale without the melodrama but none the less gripping; It delights and disgusts at the same time.

Val Small

Theatre

The Winter's Tale The Barbican Theatre



Shakespeare's classic play is very well served by this new RSC production at the Barbican Theatre. It is performed on the huge stage with a spacious, snow-white design, atmospheric music and fine acting from the RSC Company.

The plot concerns the evil and eventual reconciliation that is brought about by one man's mad jealousy. The King Leontes suspects his wife of having committed adultery, and puts her on trial. This causes her and her young son to die, and her newly-born daughter to be banished. There is then a time-lapse of sixteen years, and we

are then in Bohemia, where the baby girl has been brought up. Now she is about to be married, and this brings her face-to-face with her real father.

It is a tale of great grandeur and sweep, and no expense has been spared to make it a thrilling evening's entertainment, including a mammoth bear which rises to a terrifying height and threatens to devour the audience. It is thus a very commercial production, but one which leaves the beauty of Shakespeare's poetry completely intact.
Kfir Yefet

Dance '87 Umbrella

What an invasion. No, it's not the Chrysalids or the Russians, but the most complete conglomeration of established as well as fresh, young companies of contemporary dance from all over. The Dance Umbrella celebrates its ninth anniversary with more verve and impetus than ever, rightfully earning the respect it has gained as the world's top experimental dance showcase.

Opening night: the 'Palace Theatre' was brim-full of special guests, members of the press and even more of the swan-necked and long-limbed species than usual. Normally, the home-base for the London Contemporary Dance

School, the "Place" was specially transformed into a twenties' cabaret-club for the festival; a live saxophone quartet, the "B-shops", created inexplicably harmonious dissonance in the background whilst dancers doubling as ushers paraded about regally in elaborate sixteenth-century Italian fancy-dress, inspired by the painter, Caravaggio. Somehow, these supposedly conflicting elements blended together to evoke an atmosphere of je-ne-sais-quoi, perfectly suited to the enigmatic quality of contemporary dance.

The cabaret evenings from 14th-17th October, entitled "Flying Starts", tease the audience with a mere sample of the variety of styles available during the month-long festival.

Rose English acts as compere-comedienne for the "Flying Starts", clad (albeit barely) in a decidedly

revealing leotard, with eyelashes that could have inspired the dance of the Tarantula, and feathered headgear to rival the Prussian hussars. Visually, English could not have been more appropriate to the cabaret theme; however, note the use of "acts" and the above-given detail of her attire, for she sadly lacked in power and personality needed to command attention and sustain the level of excitement between acts. The overly-prepared script meant that English gave an unnatural delivery; her humour and enthusiasm appeared forced. Still, a function was served and credit must be given for the obvious effort.

The featured artists of the evening were the highly-acclaimed Cholmondeleys (pronounced Chum-lees) – a local female quartet with a penchant for rhythmic contact-dancing. Their three estab-

lished works, "No Joy", "Marina" and "The Cholmondeley Sisters", plus the premiere of their very latest, "The Big Dance Number" all contain overtly sexual movements: there is much caressing of each other and themselves, erotic writhing across the stage and for the most part, some form of body contact.

William Tuckett, though still a student at the Royal Ballet School, proved himself to be choreographically individualistic and adept in "Shropshire lads", a work that examines the intricacies of a love triangle, set to haunting country melodies, sung emotively by the rich, earthy baritone, Llewellyn Payappen. Equally creditable was American soloist, Rosemary Lee's exquisitely entertaining imitation of a bird in "Feathered Snippets".

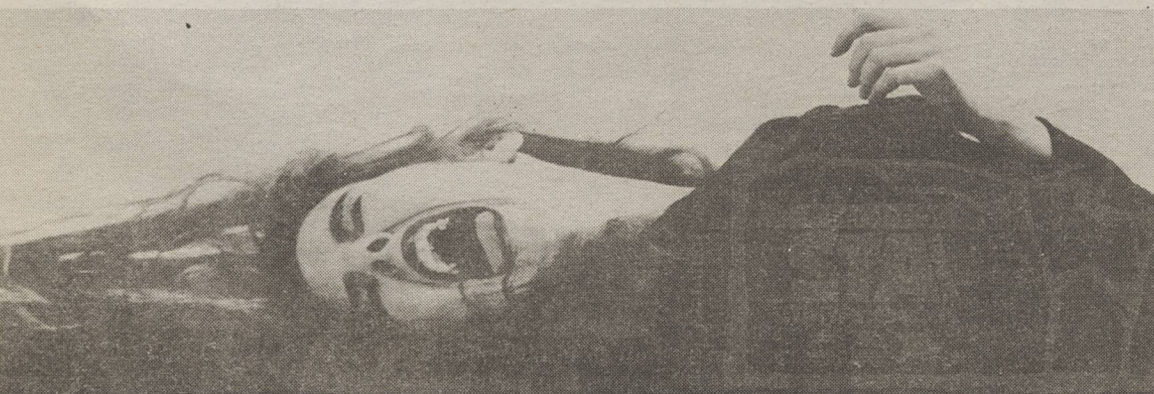
The new group, "Adventures in Motion Pictures" received rapturous applause and hearty foot-stomping for "Does your crimplene go all crusty when you rub?" – a comic mime of a frumpish group of characters in a fifties' American-style dance-hall suddenly released by uptempo, boppy tunes. A shame really, that the company's dance abilities tended to be overshadowed by the emphasis on comedy and were clearly not justified to the fullest extent.

Surprisingly, it was the touring Indian dance troupe, Pushkala Gopal and Unnikrishnan, that evoked

the most appreciation and reduced the audience to cat-whistling and cries for "more". Surprising, considering the fact that "Thillana" was obviously the most classical piece in an evening of experimental dance. Faith Wilson, press officer for the festival explains that firstly, Indian dance is perceived as contemporary in western eyes anyway. Secondly, a cyclical pattern has evolved in the relatively short history of contemporary dance, in which traditional techniques are alternately accepted or rejected. This would indicate the current trend of this season as proved by the immense reception of Gopal.

Originally created to promote innovative young artists in Britain, the Festival is attracting an increasing number of top international companies, with an encouraging number of returnees each year. Umbrella '87 sees four new-comers plus familiar faces from four continents. Local talent is abundant and the showcase serves the additional function of a management service to the smaller companies in need of financial assistance.

As the name suggests, the Dance Umbrella Festival encompasses an international range of companies, a spectrum of the latest styles and clearly caters to the widest audience possible. It is the key to making experimental dance even more accessible than ever.
Amanda



Film

Beyond Therapy

General Release

Robert Altman is America's most European film director. This fact, already known by the cohorts of Altman fans, is magnificently demonstrated in his latest film, "Beyond Therapy", with Jeff Goldblum, Tom Conti, Julie Hagerty and Glenda Jackson.

The film explores the lives of many crazy people, gravitating around two crazy psychiatrists and a crazy French restaurant. All of this in New York. A bit caricatural perhaps, the film nonetheless manages to sketch accurate and moving portraits of a gay man trying to find a wife, of his partner struggling to retain him, and of a nymphomaniac woman lost in between the two.

"Beyond Therapy" was adapted

from a play, and it must be one of the best adaptations of theatre to cinema ever made. The situations are theatrical, but they are given substance through small and genial cinematographical hints. Just as a textbook on film-making, it is superb.

Altman's film also contains two of the funniest scenes I have seen: The ending, and an unbelievable orgiastic feast of paranoia, schizophrenia and all kind of madness, that proves much too much for Tom Conti and the hard-on he suffers when he sees therapy gone wild.

And . . . what wouldn't I give for Jeff Goldblum's wardrobe!

Narr Havas



Who's that Girl?

Sexy, saucy Nikki Finn, (Madonna) exuding energy and terminally prone to big trouble, has only one thing on her mind after four years' imprisonment for a crime she didn't commit: revenge. Yuppie, preppie (and any other American acronym you can think of) Loudon Trott (Griffin Dunne) has a number of things on his mind, not the least pressing of which is how to fit into a very tight schedule his marriage to the boss's daughter. The boss's daughter Wendy, a living monument to Americanised okay-ya-ism, is having a "torrally aarsome" time skipping about with a similarly brainless bunch of bridesmaids, and admiring the contours of the Schwarzeneggeresque and equally stupid Buck, who readily admits to

radical dumbness, but confirms, in a feat of polysyllabic eloquence which he will never equal again in the film, "I am very muscular".

Wendy's squeaky-clean denture and angelic purity are placed in doubt by a succession of nebulous cab-drivers, who all say "I've had her in my cab," as if most of the "having" was done on the back seat.

All this comes together through the boss, Simon Worthington, who has taken a sudden and unprecedented interest in charitable community work, such as - wait for it - having newly released prisoners escorted to buses bound for distant and quiet lands.

Also bus-station bound are detectives Bellson and Doyle, to see if Nikki really does go to a distant and

quiet land, and are joined in this later on by two thugs, who short of sending her away, would be quite satisfied with her being very distant and very quiet, like twenty feet under the ground. There is finally, the eccentric millionaire Montgomery Bell, (Sir John Mills) who has built an enormous tropical greenhouse above his apartment block, and filled it with all sorts of wild and wonderful creatures, the last of which was to be a Patagonian Felis ConColor, a "cat" with very sharp teeth.

Plots like that of James Foley's "Who's That Girl" thrive on complication and are based on the rather dubious premise that the more there is happening on the screen and the noisier it is, the merrier the

cinema viewers will be. At best, when this is pulled off, you get a film like "After Hours", where the confusion seems strangely real. Unfortunately, "Who's That Girl" is not in the same league: everything appears vaguely affected or artificial, from Madonna's whining smart-talk to the gimmick of having a wild cat as her permanent companion and protector. The film also seems to be a rip-off of a host of recent movies. The basic central idea of the social shock between the two main characters is just a recycling of "Something Wild" and "After Hours". The two goofy policemen are suspiciously similar to the

Rosewood Bogomil pairing of "Beverly Hills Cop".

But worst of all, and a great disappointment for not a few Madonna fans, is the fact that more often than not in the film, she comes across as simply unsexy. Wearing black fish-net stockings which are about as crude as, well, fishing nets, and dresses which give new meaning to the term "miniskirt", she reveals thighs the size of Martina Navratilova's, and when she takes off her shoes and starts running down a street, you are really tempted to get up and run in the opposite direction.

Ali Fassa

Whatever happened to Kerouac?

Just as the American music and film scene of the fifties spurned personalities such as James Dean and Elvis, who seemed to offer a stuff that the teenagers of the time desperately needed, so literature came up with the Beats, complete with hip contempt for the square ways of their compatriots.

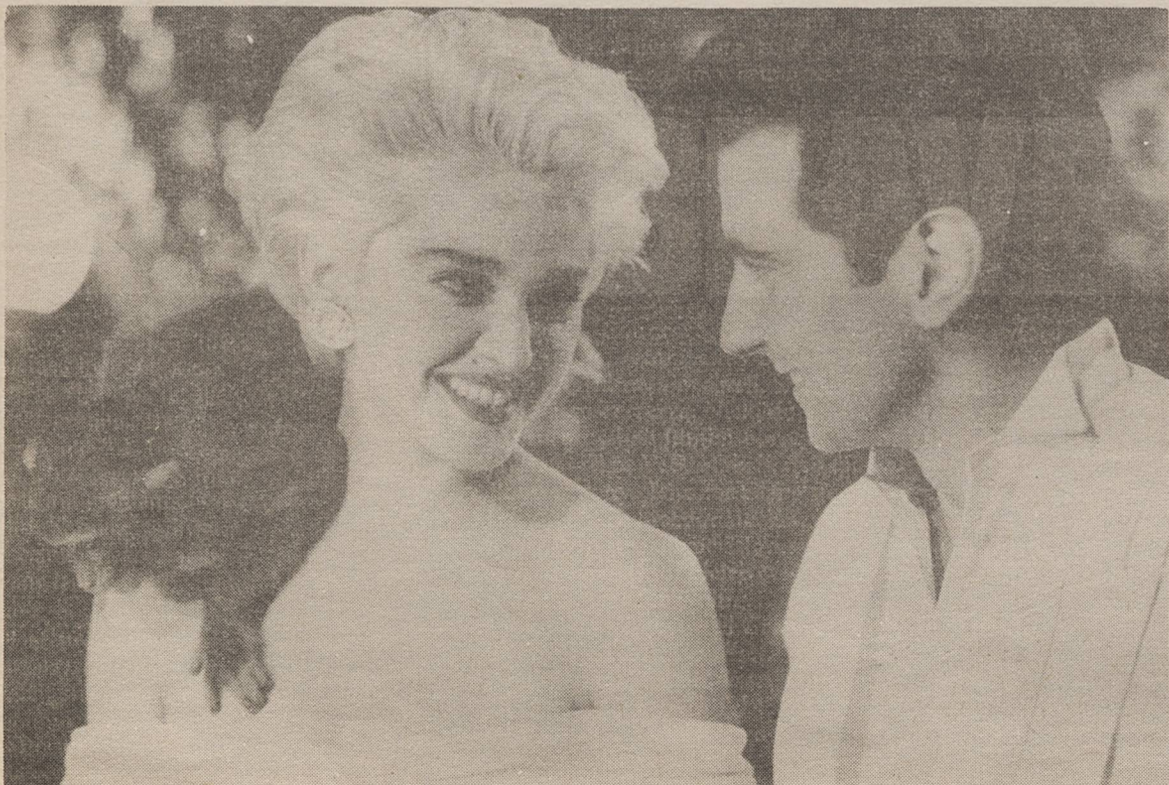
Their leading light was Jack Kerouac, young, handsome and craving experience, just burning with enthusiasm for anything and everything. A feature of "What happened to Kerouac?" is Kerouac himself reading excerpts from various of his books, and the combination of his truly innovative "spontaneous prose", a bluesy soundtrack, and footage of his American haunts, it all adds up to a pretty damn moving experience.

But Kerouac died a tortured alcoholic, and the film deals pre-

dominantly with his long crack-up after achieving fame. A series of interviews with friends, family and other Beat writers, such as Burroughs and Ginsberg, offers varying degrees of insight into the great writer, and the picture built up is of a shy, vulnerable character, two broken marriages behind him, his later work crucified by the critics.

Kerouac died in 1969, at the age of forty-six. His appearance the year before his death on the Buckley Firing Line TV show provides the most heart-breaking moments of a terribly sad film: Kerouac, a drunk and rambling being, sneered at by the presenter and laughed at by the audience.

Dean, dead at twenty-four in a car crash, Presley, drug-dependent, succumbing to infantilism, Kerouac, unable to cope, drinking himself to death. What price fame? Nick Woodrow



Hockey

LSE I - 0

Brunel University I - 3

The firsts were initially daunted by the opposition's colour-coordinated tracksuits and amazing, double-jointed warm-up routine. When the game got going, however, the advantages Brunel had over us on astroturf (combined with a whistle-happy referee) were reduced by the gutsy play of all the LSE team members.

The Brunel goals, two from penalties (see Mel's feet) and one from an unstoppable shot by a Brunel forward "lurking in the box" (see Guardian sports page), broke the LSE team's morale and bashed any hopes of victory. Nevertheless, our enthusiastic and superfit team did their utmost.

Right Back



Photo: Vanessa Brechling

LSE II 0

Brunel University II 2

As we marched onto the pitch we discovered that half the team had not yet arrived, but were apparently stuck in a coach in Shepard's Bush. When they did arrive, and once the game got underway, the match turned out to be a tantalizing "end-to-ender".

The opposition were stopped, by all possible means, while their straggling defence was constantly threatened by a powerful LSE attack. Luck, however, was not in our favour as two fluke goals sealed the match for Brunel.

Left Back

Football

Six-a-side

LSE 1ST TEAM:

WINNERS GROUP A

QUARTER FINALS: LSE 2 IMPERIAL 0

SEMI-FINAL: LSE 1 QMC 0

FINAL: LSE 0 BARTS 3

In stark contrast to last season, LSE have started off with a rush of success. Having disposed of last year's League Champions on Wednesday, this every-sapping tournament before tired legs gave out in the Final.

The Semi was even tighter, with corners now counting if the scored ended level. Tempers flared but this actually helped produce the extra effort to win this match. LSE had all the play, but trailed by a corner until the last 5 minutes when pressure led to QMC conceding first a corner, then a penalty, which Bobby converted. LSE then defended superbly to earn a place in the final.

It was a very tired team that took the field for the Final. Confidence was immediately dented when LSE conceded an early goal. Exhausted legs now had to force the pace and take risks, leading to LSE being caught on the break.

Although disappointed after so much effort, the team still felt proud to have reached the final in this high-class competition. Well done, boys!

Team: Scotty, S. Duncan, J. Watson, R. Jones, P. Wakefield, A. MacKenzie, I. Sinclair.

LSE I: 1

Brunel University I: 4

The first UAU match of the season was somewhat of a disappointment. Apres-match criticism led to biting attacks from skipper Ali Mac on the two mid-field stalwarts, Bobby and Paul, who are normally known for their creativity. Apparently, their inability to make an impression upon the match led to the defence being continually under attack.

LSE took the lead when Simon Duncan used his groin to put the ball in Brunel's net, after an opportunity had been created for him by Justin Russell. For the rest of the game LSE's performance gradually deteriorated. Probably the only players to emerge with credit at the end were the two "world-class" central defenders. However, their mastery of football's defensive intricacies was not enough to prevent Brunel scoring four goals within half an hour. Bobby and Paul PS Dear Alex can we get a game in the 2nds.

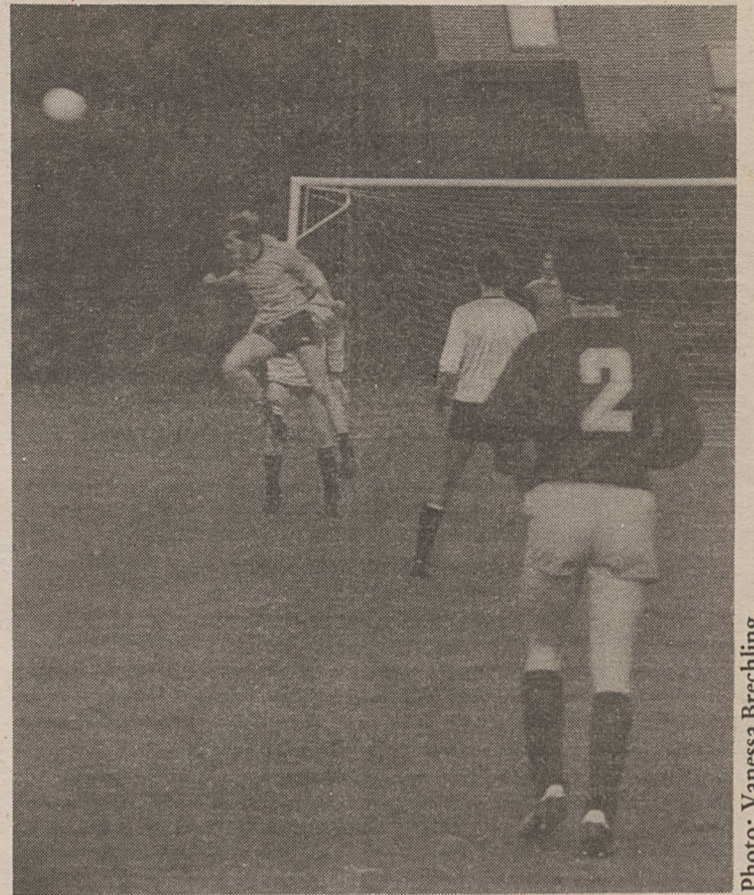


Photo: Vanessa Brechling

LSE 2nd XI - 1

Royal Holloway - 1

Brunel - 2

LSE 2nd XI - 2

Despite having eight fresh faces in the side the second team have made a solid start to the season. The two draws, at home to Royal Holloway and away to Brunel, were both winnable games that were drawn as the team ran out of steam near the end.

The Brunel draw was gained thanks to two fine strikes by Crisper Leyser, and, as the mid-field lost pace in the second half, to some excellent defensive work by the two full-backs, Martin Keman and Dave Warren.

The team has a lot of talent, and when all eleven are fit enough to play as impressively after half time as before it, the victories will start to flow.

Alex Hunt



Photo: Vanessa Brechling

Rugby

With New Malden closely resembling a deserted timber yard, LSE 1sts arrived for our annual fixture against Economical, the old boys.

A good start was made with Ian Hart slotting two penalties, but the pack was lacking cohesion in the set pieces - a strength of LSE in previous seasons.

Economical counter-attacked well after tries by Steve Kelley and Ahmed to keep the score close. However in the final quarter LSE stepped up another gear with a try by Edrick and a further penalty by Ian to cruise home to a comfortable 23-13 victory.

LSE v Brunel University

1st XV lost 34-10

2nd XV lost 16-0

Both LSE teams arrived late and came up against very well organised opposition from Brunel. Both sets of forwards had a hard and fast game, although the LSE showed a lack of fitness towards the end.

The second half revealed good performances from both teams. The first XV, short of match practice, did particularly well in the second half, conceding only three points.

Houghton Street Harry

With the professional football season nearly a quarter of the way through, I think it is time to make my "belting" predictions for the year ahead in the football world.

I imagine that the men in white coats would put out a search party if I didn't tip the boys from Anfield for the title. As I said last week, they really do look unbeatable at the moment - but let's remember what a few injuries can do, especially if John Barnes is involved. Arsenal are also playing well and unless they burn-out like last season, are my tip for runners-up. As for the bottom of Division One, Charlton made the great escape last year, but even with Andy Jones in their attack they don't seem to have the quality needed to survive. Watford look "dodgy" as well - Harry Bassett's cockney bravado seems to have been diluted outside the capital. I also fancy Wimbledon for the drop (but then didn't everyone last year?), basically because Bobby Gould is not the world's most successful manager. Norwich and Sheffield Wednesday look likely to be fighting in the play-off.

In the second division Bradford and Middlesbrough seem set for the top two spots. You can't help thinking that of Bradford make it there could be a lot of emotional scenes at Valley Parade. For the play-off spot I'm going for Crystal Palace, Hull and Ipswich.

Two final predictions: Everton look a good bet for the cup, and two years after disaster struck it might be time for Hearts to show that you don't need big money signings to win in Scotland - perhaps someone should have a word with Mr Souness.